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Letter to Nellie Cahill, 1862 August 24

Thomas W. Cahill

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Camp Parafet Carrollton Aug²⁴ 62

My Dear Sister your welcome letter of
August 3^d has just come to hand I am
glad to hear such good news from home
you say you have not heard from me in some
time and that Margaret is worrying about it
and I know you have heard before this I
know she will be glad to hear we are here I
wrote two or three letters home from Baton
Rouge between the 1st and 20th of Aug, so
you have heard all about the fight with Ben
Kenridy well we whipped him well
and the Artillery did not feel like
firing the gunboats up the River as the
water is falling very fast and it would
be as the heavy boats aground and our
transports would have to be voyaged so we
have come back to our old position
with Gen^l Phelps I am writing this in
Mr Ferrans mansion on the Levee
Road which I have taken for an hospital
having turned the family out for that pur-
pose, it is a splendid place I suppose
there are 2 hundred Orange trees fairly
loaded down with fruit on this place
they are green but they look beautiful I say
nothing about the celebrated Japan Plu-
ms which Mr Ferran assumes me he
has sold 3,000 dollars worth from his
place in one year or season 3,000 only
think of it, there are 400 of these trees in the
front yard besides the Oranges and Magnolias

Thos M^r Lorrain has been a great fight-
ing man and duellist in ^{his} day but seems
quite enough now I was sorry to know him
and but I was bound to get the best
place I could for my sick the I had
a great fight of words with him when
he went to take possession our boat touched
the levee in front of his place we scuffled
every where for a good place
but this is the best and most beautiful so
I took it they are and old Creole family
and Catholic; there was a priest with the
family on a visit from Magnitaches on
the Red River he was formerly Pastor at
this place; a German I think a very good
man; I have not heard from Father
Mullen since he left Baton Rouge
he is in New Orleans

So Father Lant is home at last well
I am glad to hear it so he looks as usual
well I hoped to hear he was better I wish
I could get time to write to him but it
seems impossible for me to get time to
write letters you speak of the field glas-
ses of course I got them but forgot to write
about it I never use them much I have so
many things to carry about as soon as
I get time I must even have my baggage
and send home a lot of stuff which
is in my way you have not sent me word
about the Big box I sent home by Express
from Ship Island April 10th I have
the receipts for it and paid \$4.50 on it

I was in hopes I could have got home
soon for a short time but I do not see
how I can now Genl Butler has given me
Command of a Brigade composed of the
12th Can & 8th New Hampshire 15th Maine
and Duncans & Holcombs Battalions
and all the guns in position on the
fortifications here; so that I have
a pile of business on hand
more than I want but my health is
good never was better than this summer
notwithstanding the hardships I have
gone through under Gods favor
we have prospered well and come
through the fight at Baton Rouge with
hout damage.

I have lots of money in my pocket which
I intend to send home soon as I get
time to go to New Orleans
All your acquaintances are well
I shall send C. Bowen in command
of a company soon would do so
before but the growler is playing sick
and I cannot be an Co B without an
officer Mr Cusker is delicate and
I do not like to put him on duty
but the growler is in a safe place now
and I suppose will get well soon
the Genl Cole is in command of the Regt.
Let all of you write to me but I cannot answer
all your letters I rec one from the May
or and one from Dr Joes about the fine
hominic boy so like his father without
the whiskers I tell you I have whiskers

near as big as me Cantor; John Bulley is well
you say you got his sketch of Bucksburg
I send you 2 on there; Don't send me
any more of your bits of letters the size of
my hand or less on yellow paper such
a bit of a thing if you have no papers I
will send you some. I'm near
midnight and I am sleepy and
bless good night Kiss all the
Babies for me and don't keep me
thinking about me. God is good
and all will be well yet
ask Father I want to write to
me
Your Loving Brother
Thos W Cahill

Address your Letters
~~to Camp Parapet Carrollton~~
New Orleans